

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method operative to automatically generate an index for a document, the method comprising:

determining a sub-section delimiter definition including at least one delimiter characteristic;

searching the document to find occurrences of items corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

generating the index for the document with found items corresponding to the sub-section delimiter occurrences.

2. (Currently Amended) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter comprises indicating at least one of a font size, a font style, a text string, a text location description, a predetermined machine readable symbol, and a specific point coordinate within the document.

3. (Currently Amended) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter comprises using a predetermined machine readable symbol representing a demarcation point on a printed version of the document as the sub-section delimiter.

4. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein searching the document comprises:

generating an electronic version of the document; and,

searching the electronic version of the document for one of characters and objects corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter .

5. (Original) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 4 wherein generating an electronic version of the document comprises:

scanning a printed version of the document to generate scan data;
and,
performing one of optical character recognition functions and document recognition functions on the scan data to generate an electronic version of the document.

6. (Original) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 further comprising:

displaying the created index;
checking that the displayed index is correct; and,
correcting the index.

7. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter definition comprises:

selecting an exemplary sub-section title;
performing one of document recognition and optical character recognition on the selected exemplary sub-section title, and
using at least one recognized property of the exemplary sub-section title as a sub-section delimiter definition.

8. (Original) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter definition comprises:

displaying a plurality of document pages on a user interface;
selecting at least one demarcation point on at least one of the plurality of pages ; and,
using the at least one demarcation point as the defined sub-section delimiter.

9. (Currently Amended) A document processor operative to automatically generate an index for a document from occurrences corresponding to

a delimiter definition, the document processor comprising:

a document input device operative to provide an electronic version of a document;

a document storage device operative to store the electronic version of the document;

a delimiter searcher operative to search for and record text and text location information regarding the occurrences of a defined corresponding to the delimiter definition within the electronic version of the document; and

a document divider operative to divide the document into sub-sections based on the recorded information regarding the occurrences of ~~items~~ corresponding to the ~~defined~~ delimiter definition.

10. (Original) The document processor of claim 9 further comprising:
a user interface operative to transfer information between a document processor operator and portions of the document processor; and;

a delimiter designator module operative to communicate with the document processor operator through the user interface in order to generate at least one delimiter designation.

11. (Currently Amended) The document processor of claim 10 wherein the delimiter designator is operative to accept an indication of at least one of a font size, a font style, a text string, a text location description, a predefined machine readable symbol, and a specific point coordinate within the document as a delimiter designation.

12. (Original) The document processor of claim 10 wherein the delimiter designator is operative to display a plurality of document portions on the user interface for the document operator to view while determining the at least one delimiter designation.

13. (Original) The document processor of claim 12 wherein the user interface is operative to receive demarcation point designations from the document processor operator and deliver the demarcation point designations to the delimiter designator as delimiter designations.

14. (Original) The document processor of claim 9 wherein the delimiter searcher is operative to search for a defined delimiter comprising a symbol selected from a barcode and a data glyph.

15. (Original) The document processor of claim 9 further comprising a print engine operative to print sub-sections of the document.

16. (Original) The document processor of claim 15, operating in a xerographic environment, wherein the print engine comprises a xerographic printer.

17. (Original) The document processor of claim 15 wherein the print engine comprises an inkjet printer.

18. (Previously Presented) A method for dividing a document into separate sections, the method comprising:

scanning the document to generate scanned document data;

performing recognition functions on the scanned document data to generate a recognized version of the document ;

defining a sub-section delimiter, wherein defining the sub-section delimiter includes at least one of a document processor operator building a sub-section delimiter from a list of predetermined potential sub-section delimiter components, a document processor operator entering a sub-section delimiter through keyboard keystrokes, entering a sub-section delimiter by selecting symbols on a displayed portion of the electronic version of the document, and designating at least one demarcation point on at least one displayed portion of the electronic document to create a list of demarcation points to be used as a set of delimiter definitions;

searching the recognized version to find occurrences of items that correspond to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

using the found items to separate the document into the separate sections.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method for dividing a document into separate sections, the method comprising:

scanning the document to generate scanned document data;
performing recognition functions on the scanned document data to generate a recognized version of the document ;

defining a sub-section delimiter, wherein defining the sub-section delimiter comprises marking a paper version of the document with at least one special-predetermined machine readable demarcation symbol prior to scanning the document- ;

searching the recognized version to find occurrences of items that correspond to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

using the found items to separate the document into the separate sections.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the automatically generated index is an automatically generated table of contents of the document, and the items corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter are chapter titles displayed in an order in which they appear in the document.

22. (Currently Amended) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter comprises indicating at least one of a font size, a font style, a text location description, a predetermined machine readable symbol, and a specific point coordinate within the document.

23. (Currently Amended) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter comprises indicating at least one of a font size, a font style, a predetermined machine readable symbol, and a specific point coordinate within the document.

24. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 22 wherein searching the document comprises:

generating an electronic version of the document; and,
searching the electronic version of the document for one of characters
and objects corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter.

25. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically
generate an index for a document of claim 23 wherein searching the document
comprises:

generating an electronic version of the document; and,
searching the electronic version of the document for one of characters
and objects corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter.

26. (Currently Amended) The document processor of claim 10
wherein the delimiter designator is operative to accept an indication of at least one
of a font size, a font style, a text location description, a predetermined machine
readable symbol, and a specific point coordinate within the document as a delimiter
designation.

27. (Currently Amended) The document processor of claim 10
wherein the delimiter designator is operative to accept an indication of at least one
of a font size, a font style, a predetermined machine readable symbol, and a specific
point coordinate within the document as a delimiter designation.

28. (Previously Presented) A method for dividing a document into
separate sections, the method comprising:

scanning the document to generate scanned document data;
performing recognition functions on the scanned document data to
generate a recognized version of the document ;
defining a sub-section delimiter; wherein defining the sub-section
delimiter comprises at least one of building a sub-section delimiter from a list of
predetermined potential sub-section delimiter components, performing statistical
analysis on recognized characters to select characteristics that are most likely to be
associated with sub-section delimiters, entering a sub-section delimiter by selecting
symbols on a displayed portion of the electronic version of the document, and
designating at least one demarcation point on at least one displayed portion of the

electronic document to create a list of demarcation points to be used as a set of delimiter definitions;

searching the recognized version to find occurrences of items that correspond to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

using the found items to separate the document into the separate sections.

29. (Currently Amended) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter consists of indicating at least one of a font size, a font style, a text location description, and a specific point coordinate within the document.

30. (Currently Amended) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 1 wherein determining a sub-section delimiter consists of using a ~~symbol~~ predetermined machine readable marking representing a demarcation point on a printed version of the document as the sub-section delimiter.